

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /031 R

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O 060116Z JUL 74 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SANAA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
SECDEF IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 146077

EXDIS, TOSEC 364, ZFF AMMAN & ROME ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PF, MARR, MASS, JO, YE, SA, US

SUBJECT: YEMENI REQUEST FOR JORDAN ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) AMMAN 3912; (B) SANAA 1363

1. YOU MAY INFORM KING HUSSEIN THAT USG ENDORSES HIS PRO-
POSAL TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO YARG'S URGENT REQUEST FOR
MUNITIONS. WE CONSIDER PROMPT GOJ RESPONSE TO BE CONSIS-
TENT WITH OUR OBJECTIVES OF ENCOURAGING YAR TO LOOK
PRIMARILY TO ITS REGIONAL NEIGHBORS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE
AND FOR LATTER TO ASSUME INCREASING RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN

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THEIR MEANS AND CAPABILITIES FOR YEMEN'S SECURITY.

2. YOU MAY ALSO INFORM KING THAT USG IS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO REPLACE ON FMS CASH BASIS BOTH 50 CALIBER AND 106MM AMMO. 106 AMMO IS IN CRITICALLY SHORT SUPPLY AND CURRENT LEAD TIME IS 27 MONTHS; WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO REDUCE THIS BUT CAN MAKE NO PROMISES. WE ARE ASSUMING BOTH 106MM AND 50 CALIBER ARE OF US ORIGIN, AND WE HEREBY AUTHORIZE TRANSFER TO YARG. DOD WILL NEED KNOW TYPES AND QUANTITIES OF 106 AMMO REPLACEMENT DESIRED. ALSO, WE ARE PROVIDING CONGRESS WITH INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSED TRANSFER AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 3(A) OF FMS ACT. WE NEED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE DETAILED REPORT OF ITEMS TRANSFERRED AND THEIR ORIGIN, I.E., FMS, MAP, OTHER, IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO ANTICIPATED CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFO.

3. WE HOPE THAT JORDANIANS PLAN TO BE IN EARLY COMMUNICATION WITH SAUDIS, BOTH TO KEEP LATTER INFORMED OF PROPOSED JORDANIAN RESPONSE TO YARG REQUEST AND TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER SAG PREPARED, AS AL-HAMDI HOPES, TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE. WE ASSUME AL-HAMDI INTENDS TO RAISE SUBJECT THIS EMERGENCY MILITARY ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS QUESTION OF HELP FOR LONGER-TERM MILITARY RE-EQUIPMENT WITH SAUDIS DURING HIS VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA STARTING JULY 7. IF SO, HUSSEIN MAY WISH HAVE HIS EMBASSY IN JIDDA BE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH YARG DELEGATION TO CONFIRM SOONEST WHETHER SAUDIS APPROVE OF AND ARE WILLING TO SUPPORT JORDANIAN ASSISTANCE.

4. FOR JIDDA; YOU SHOULD SEEK TO COORDINATE YOUR APPROACH TO SAG WITH THAT OF JORDANIANS, INFORMING SAUDIS AT EARLIEST APPROPRIATE DATE OF OUR RESPONSE TO KING HUSSEIN, STRESSING THAT WE SEE TRILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN AND THE U.S. IN HELPING YAR MEET ITS URGENT DEFENSE NEEDS AS EXAMPLE OF SORT OF REGIONAL COOPERATION WE WISH TO ENCOURAGE.

5. FOR SANAA: YOU SHOULD SEEK APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY PRIOR AL-HAMDI'S DEPARTURE FOR JIDDA TO LET HIM KNOW OF KING HUSSEIN'S APPROACH TO US AND OF OUR RESPONSE. IN DOING SO YOU SHOULD ENCOURAGE AL-HAMDI TO BRIEF SAUDIS
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THOROUGHLY ON HIS REQUESTS TO JORDANIANS, INCLUDING RATIONALE FOR URGENT AMMUNITION REQUEST. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AMMUNITION, TOSEC 364, MILITARY CREDIT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE146077
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BWRAMPPELMEIER:AIC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740179-0497
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740770/aaaacidj.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) AMMAN 3912; (B) SANAA 1363
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: YEMENI REQUEST FOR JORDAN ASSISTANCE
TAGS: MARR, MASS, PF, JO, YE, SA, US
To: AMMAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005